

Collins, on behalf of Graduate Employees Together-University of Pennsylvania, both of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; Nancy Schiffer, AFL-CIO, Washington, D.C.; and William L. Messenger, National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation, Springfield, Virginia.

GLOBAL POSTURE REVIEW

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Global Posture Review of United States military forces stationed overseas, after receiving testimony from Donald H. Rumsfeld, Secretary of Defense; General Richard B. Myers, USAF, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; General James L. Jones, Jr., USMC, Commander, U.S. European Command and Supreme Allied Commander, Europe; Admiral Thomas B. Fargo, USN, Commander, U.S. Pacific Command; and General Leon J. LaPorte, USA, Commander, United Nations Command, Republic of Korea/U.S. Combined Forces Command, Commander, U.S. Forces Korea.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine drug abuse prevention issues, focusing on the role of prescription drug monitoring programs, and federal privacy standards for PMPs, after receiving testimony from Representative Whitfield; James W. Holsinger,

Jr., Kentucky Secretary for Health and Family Services, Frankfort; Sherry Green, National Alliance for Model State Drug Laws, Alexandria, Virginia; Kenneth G. Varley, Alabama Society of Interventional Pain Physicians, Birmingham, on behalf of the American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians; Joy L. Pritts, Georgetown University Health Policy Institute, Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to consider pending intelligence matters.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

MEDICARE DISCOUNT DRUG CARDS

Special Committee on Aging: Committee met to discuss the new Medicare-approved prescription drug cards and transitional assistance programs for seniors, with Mark McClellan, Administrator, and Sharman Stephens, Director, Planning and Policy Analysis Group, Office of Research, Development and Information, both of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services; and James Firman, National Council on the Aging, Mary R. Grealy, Healthcare Leadership Council, Robert B. Helms, American Enterprise Institute, and Julie James, Health Policy Alternatives, Inc., all of Washington, D.C.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Measures Introduced: 17 public bills, H.R. 5130–5146; and; 10 resolutions, H.J. Res. 106; H. Con. Res. 497–499, and H. Res. 795–800 were introduced.

Pages H7574–75

Additional Cosponsors:

Page H7575

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 4341, to reform the postal laws of the United States, amended (H. Rept. 108–672, Pt. 2);

Conference report on H.R. 1308, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to end certain abusive tax practices, to provide tax relief and simplification (H. Rept. 108–696);

H. Res. 745, of inquiry requesting the President of the United States to provide certain information to the House of Representatives respecting the National Energy Policy Development Group, adversely (H. Rept. 108–697);

H.R. 4661, to amend title 18, United States Code, to discourage spyware, amended (H. Rept. 108–698); and

H. Res. 794, waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 1308) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to accelerate the increase in the refundability of the child tax credit (H. Rept. 108–699).

Pages H7573–74

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Kirk to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today.

Page H7445

Chaplain: The prayer was offered today by Rev. Betsy Singleton, Pastor, Quapaw Quarter United Methodist Church in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Page H7445

Recess: The House recessed at 9:05 a.m. for the purpose of receiving His Excellency Ayad Allawi, Interim Prime Minister of the Republic of Iraq and reconvened at 11:15 a.m.; and agreed that the proceedings had during the Joint Meeting be printed in the Record.

Pages H7445, H7448

Joint Meeting to receive His Excellency Ayad Allawi, Interim Prime Minister of the Republic of Iraq: The House and Senate met in a Joint Meeting to receive His Excellency Ayad Allawi, Interim Prime Minister of the Republic of Iraq. He was escorted in the House Chamber by a Committee comprised of Representatives DeLay, Blunt, Cox, Kingston, Hunter, Ros-Lehtinen, Pelosi, Hoyer, Clyburn, Skelton, Lantos, and Harman and Senators Frist, McConnell, Santorum, Hutchinson, Kyl, Allen, Lugar, Sessions, Daschle, Breaux, Stabenow, Clinton, and Corzine.

Pages H7445–46

Pledge Protection Act of 2004—Rule for Consideration: The House passed H.R. 2028, to amend title 28, United States Code, with respect to the jurisdiction of Federal courts inferior to the Supreme Court over certain cases and controversies involving the Pledge of Allegiance, by ye and nay vote of 247 yeas to 173 nays, Roll No. 467.

Pages H7451–78

Agreed to the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill and considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment.

Page H7478

Agreed to:

Sensenbrenner manager's amendment (no. 1 printed in H. Rept. 108–693) that clarifies that the local courts of the District of Columbia may consider cases relating to the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pages H7471–72

Rejected:

Jackson-Lee amendment (no. 3 printed in H. Rept. 108–693) that sought to provide for an exception to the bill's preclusion from the federal courts of claims that involve allegations of coerced or mandatory recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, including coercion in violation of the First Amendment; and

Pages H7475–77

Watt amendment (no. 2 printed in H. Rept. 108–693) that sought to preserve the authority of the United States Supreme Court to hear or decide any question pertaining to the interpretation of, or the validity under the Constitution of, the Pledge of Allegiance, as defined in section 4 of title 4, or its recitation (by a recorded vote of 202 yeas, to 217 noes, Roll No. 466).

Pages H7472–75, H7477

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: to amend title 28, United States Code, with respect to the jurisdiction of Federal courts over certain cases and controversies involving the Pledge of Allegiance.

Page H7478

H. Res. 781, the rule providing for consideration of the bill was agreed to yesterday, September 22.

Page H7451

Suspension: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated yesterday, September 22.

Adoption Tax Relief Guarantee Act: H.R. 1057, to repeal the sunset of the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 with respect

to the expansion of the adoption credit and adoption assistance programs, by a ye and nay vote of 414 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 468.

Pages H7478–79

Tax Relief, Simplification, and Equity Act of 2004—Conference Report: The House agreed to H. Rept. 108–696, the conference report to accompany H.R. 1308, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to accelerate the increase in the refundability of the child tax credit, by a recorded vote of 339 yeas to 65 noes, Roll No. 472.

Pages H7514–40

H. Res. 785, the rule waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of Rule XIII with respect to the same day consideration of certain resolutions reported by the Rules Committee, was agreed to by a voice vote, after agreeing to order the previous question by a ye and nay vote of 211 yeas to 196 nays, Roll No. 469.

Page H7514

H. Res. 794, the rule providing for consideration of the conference report was agreed to by a ye and nay vote of 235 to 167, Roll No. 471, after agreeing to order the previous question by a ye and nay vote of 212 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 470.

Pages H7514–31

The Moore motion to instruct conferees on the bill, which was debated yesterday, was vitiated by the filing of the conference report on the bill.

Page H7509

Recess: The House recessed at 3:12 p.m. and reconvened at 3:54 p.m.

Page H7514

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourn today it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. tomorrow, September 24; and further that when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 28 for Morning Hour debate.

Page H7542

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, September 29.

Page H7542

Committee Election: Agreed to H. Res. 795, electing Representative Gerlach to the Committee on Financial Services and Representative Burgess to the Committee on Government Reform.

Page H7542

Member Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Goss wherein he resigned as Representative of the 14th Congressional District of Florida, effective close of business today.

Page H7542

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H7563.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five ye and nay votes and two recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7477, H7478, H7478–79, H7514, H7529–30, H7530, H7539–40. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 11:58 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Agriculture: Ordered reported the following measures: H. Res. 261, Expressing the support of the House of Representatives for the efforts of organizations such as Second Harvest to provide emergency food assistance to hungry people in the United States, and encouraging all Americans to provide volunteer services and other support for local antihunger advocacy efforts and hunger relief charities, including food banks, food rescue organizations, food pantries, soup kitchens, and emergency shelters; H. Res. 481, Recognizing the establishment of Hunters for the Hungry programs across the United States and the contributions of those programs to efforts to decrease hunger and help feed those in need; H.R. 2119, amended, To provide for the use by the State of North Carolina of Federal lands, improvements, equipment, and resource materials at the Oxford Research Station in Granville County, North Carolina; H.R. 2984, To amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act to remove the requirement that processors be members of an agency administering a marketing order applicable to pears; H.R. 3372, To designate the facility of the Agriculture Research Service of the Department of Agriculture located at State Highway 26 West in Poplarville, Mississippi, as the "Thad Cochran Southern Horticultural Laboratory;" H.R. 3514, amended, Pennsylvania National Forest Improvement Act of 2003; S. 33, To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange all or part of certain administrative sites and other land in the Ozark-St. Francis and Ouachita National Forests and to use funds derived from the sale or exchange to acquire, construct, or improve administrative sites; H.R. 4569, To provide for the development of a national plan for the control and management of Sudden Oak Death, a tree disease caused by the fungus-like pathogen *Phytophthora ramorum*; H.R. 4620, amended, To confirm the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Commodity Credit Corporation to enter into memorandums of understanding with a State regarding the collection of approved State commodity assessments on behalf of the State from the proceeds of marketing assistance loans; H.R. 5042, To amend the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944 to ensure that the dependents of employees of the Forest Service stationed in Puerto Rico receive a high-quality elementary and secondary education; and S. 1814, To transfer federal lands between the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior.

DIPLOMA MILLS

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness held a hearing entitled "Current Safeguards Protecting Taxpayers Against Diploma Mills." Testimony was heard from Robert Cramer, Managing Director, Of-

fice of Special Investigations, GAO; and public witnesses.

MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 2004

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials approved for full Committee action, as amended, H.R. 4940, Municipal Solid Waste Responsibility Act of 2004.

PUBLIC HEALTH—FDA'S ROLE IN PROTECTING

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled "FDA's Role in Protecting the Public Health: Examining FDA's Review of Safety and Efficacy Concerns in Anti-Depressant Use by Children." Testimony was heard from the following officials of the FDA, Department of Health and Human Services: Andrew Mosholder, M.D., Paul Seligman, M.D., Robert Temple, M.D., Thomas Laughen, M.D., Tarek Hammad, M.D., and James Knudsen, M.D.

ENCOURAGING SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled "Encouraging Small Business Growth and Access to Capital." Testimony was heard from Alan L. Beller, Director, Division of Corporation Finance, SEC; and public witnesses.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PIRACY

Committee on Government Reform: Held a hearing entitled "Intellectual Property Piracy: Are We Doing Enough to Protect U.S. Innovation Abroad?" Testimony was heard from Representative Simmons; Loren Yager, Director, International Affairs and Trade, GAO; and public witnesses.

U.S. SECURITY POLICY IN AFGHANISTAN ON EVE OF NATIONAL ELECTIONS

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing on United States Security Policy in Afghanistan on the Eve of National Elections. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Peter W. Rodman, Assistant Secretary, International Security Affairs; and LTG Walter L. Sharp, USA, Director, Strategic Plans and Policy, J-5, The Joint Staff; and Robert B. Charles, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, Department of State.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security approved for full Committee action, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 4547, Defending America's Most Vulnerable Safe Access to Drug Treatment and Child Protection Act of 2004; S. 1194, Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act of 2003; and H.R. 4264, Animal Fighting Prohibition Enforcement Act of 2004.